

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 PM-07 INR-10 L-03 NEA-10

NSAE-00 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03 TRSE-00 SAJ-01

DODE-00 CU-04 DRC-01 /071 W

----- 053560

R 061700Z NOV 73

FM USMISSION NATO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2523

INFO USIA WASHDC

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE USE USNATO 5333

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR,SCUL,NATO

SUBJECT: CICR MEETING NOVEMBER 5, 1973; NATO FELLOWSHIP PROGRAM

REF: (A) STATE 215035; (B) USNATO 5224

SUMMARY: U.S. STATED SUPPORT OF BRITISH COMPROMISE PROPOSAL FOR CURRENT YEAR. FRENCH REMAINED ADAMANT FOR INTERIM APPROVAL OF FELLOWSHIP PROGRAM FOR CURRENT YEAR. MEMBERS TO SEEK INSTRUCTIONS AND MEET AGAIN NOVEMBER 12. END SUMMARY.

1. U.S. REP SAID HIS GOVERNMENT HAD DECIDED TO SUPPORT BRITISH COMPROMISE PROPOSAL FOR CURRENT YEAR. FRENCH INSISTED THAT SINCE BRITISH HAD ALREADY AGREED TO INTERIM APPROVAL OF OLD FELLOWSHIP PROGRAM FOR CURRENT YEAR, ITS PROPOSAL WAS FOR FUTURE YEARS; AMERICANS THEREFORE WERE PROPOSING SOMETHING NEW SINCE IT WAS TO APPLY TO CURRENT YEAR. BRITISH AGREED. FINALLY, COMMITTEE AGREED THAT THIS SHOULD BE CONSIDERED AMERICAN ADAPTATION OF BRITISH PROPOSAL.

2. FRENCH, HOWEVER, INSISTED THAT THERE COULD BE NO COMPROMISE ON PRINCIPLE THAT OLD FELLOWSHIP PROGRAM BE LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
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CONTINUED THIS YEAR. WOULD NOTIFY PARIS OF PROPOSED COMPROMISE BUT COULD GUARANTEE THAT PARIS WOULD JUDGE IT UNACCEPTABLE.

3. LATER FRENCH REP SAID THAT IF HIS AMBASSADOR WANTED EVENTUALLY TO TAKE DIFFERENT POSITION IN COUNCIL OR AT PERMREPS LUNCH, THAT WAS HIS BUSINESS, BUT HIS INSTRUCTIONS IN CICR WERE ABSOLUTELY INFLEXIBLE.

4. NETHERLANDS REP SAID HE FELT U.S.-UK PROPOSAL WORTH- WHILE. OTHERS, LACKING INSTRUCTIONS, LIMITED THEMSELVES TO RESTATEMENTS OF PREVIOUS POSITIONS.

5. CHAIRMAN KOREN SUGGESTED THAT DELEGATIONS SEEK INSTRUCTIONS, POINTING OUT THAT IF CURRENT COMPROMISE PROPOSAL NOT ACCEPTED THERE WAS GREAT LIKELIHOOD THAT THERE WOULD BE NO NATO FELLOWSHIP PROGRAM ANYWHERE IN CURRENT YEAR. FRENCH OBJECTED TO THIS FORMULATION, BUT KOREN DID NOT RETRACT.

6. NEXT MEETING SCHEDULED FOR NOVEMBER 12. MEANWHILE, KOREN WILL ASK NATO BUDGET COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN WHETHER U.S.-UK COMPROMISE WOULD BE FEASIBLE.

7. MISSION COMMENTS. PARA THREE GIVES HINT THAT FRENCH MIGHT EVENTUALLY YIELD. SINCE U.S.-UK COMPROMISE PROPOSAL GIVES BEST HOPE FOR ULTIMATE ABOLITION OF FELLOWSHIP PROGRAM, MISSION PLANS TO HEAR INSTRUCTED POSITIONS OF OTHER DELEGATIONS BEFORE MAKING NEXT MOVE.

8. DEPARTMENT'S COMMENTS BY NOVEMBER 10 WOULD BE APPRECIATED.

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptoning: X
Capture Date: 02 APR 1999
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 06 NOV 1973
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: garlanwa
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1973NATO05333
Document Source: ADS
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: n/a
Film Number: n/a
From: NATO
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1973/newtext/t19731165/abqceddd.tel
Line Count: 86
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Office: n/a
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: (A) STATE 215035; (B) USNATO 5224
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: garlanwa
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 14 AUG 2001
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <14-Aug-2001 by kellerpr>; APPROVED <28-Sep-2001 by garlanwa>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: CICR MEETING NOVEMBER 5, 1973; NATO FELLOWSHIP PROGRAM
TAGS: PFOR,SCUL,NATO
To: STATE INFO USIA
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005